

Northampton State Hospitals), using resources gained at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center. She established on-site specialty health care clinics, recruited on-site medical, health, and support staff and brought health care to a disenfranchised population. Additionally, she designed and opened a 25-bed inpatient psychiatric unit at the then new University of Massachusetts Medical Center.

CAPT Barkin worked with community mental health centers in Massachusetts and New England. She introduced the concept of mental health to Boston's Italian speaking community of the North End and drafted a grant for mental health center funding. As the only bilingual clinical counselor at the time, CAPT Barkin designed and implemented a program that would be accepted by the residents. The mental health program, located in Boston's North End Health Center, has been in operation for over 30 years and plays a vital role in the community.

The State of Massachusetts is particularly indebted to CAPT Barkin for her focus on teenage alcohol abuse prevention and drunk driving that resulted in the increased delivery of comprehensive, coordinated substance abuse care in Massachusetts and other New England states.

Please join me in congratulating CAPT Amy Barkin on her retirement after a 30 year career with the United States Public Health Service. Her focus on access to alcohol, drug abuse, mental health and primary health care services is commendable and laudable and although she is retiring, her legacy will continue to make the Nation a healthier and safer place.

HONORING AARON ROCHEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aaron Rothen of Kansas City, Missouri. Aaron is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1900, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aaron has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Aaron has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Aaron Rothen for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

THE AMERICAN HOUSING RESCUE AND FORECLOSURE PREVENTION ACT

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3221, the American Housing Rescue and Foreclosure Prevention Act.

This legislation provides much needed mortgage refinancing assistance to combat the symptoms of our stressed, strained, and stagnant economy. H.R. 3221 provides relief and stability to hard working Americans who find themselves threatened with losing their homes.

Specifically H.R. 3221 authorizes the Federal Housing Administration to provide lower cost government-backed mortgages for borrowers to avoid foreclosure. This bill is not intended to bail out borrowers; instead, it is a surefire way to sustain our economy by giving homeowners a chance to pay their loans in a reasonable and responsible manner. And provides financial counseling for families to remain in their homes and expands home loan opportunities for low-income families and veterans in high cost areas.

This bill is what our communities need. Just in the great state of Illinois; out of 1.7 million serviced loans in 2007, already over 500,000 are seriously delinquent or more than 90 days past due. It will insulate our neighborhoods from the effects of widespread foreclosures and crime. It will prevent our residents from experiencing the crippling hardships that are strongly associated with our struggling economy. And it will make the American dream of homeownership for all a reality instead of a nightmare.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 3221 is critical at this time of economic uncertainty. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this important legislation.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RICK RENZI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

Mr. RENZI. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman Rick RENZI.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Operation and Maintenance, Navy (OMN).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps.

Address of Requesting Entity: U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, 2300 Wilson Blvd., North, Suite 200, Arlington, VA 22201.

Description of Request: The request is \$300,000 for a program that is focused upon development of youth ages 11–17, serving almost 9,000 Sea Cadets managed by adult volunteers. The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps promotes interest and skill in seamanship and aviation and instills qualities that mold strong moral character in an anti-drug and anti-gang environment.

Summer training onboard Navy and Coast Guard ships and shore stations is a challenging training ground for developing self-confidence and self-discipline, promotion of high standards of conduct and performance and a sense of teamwork. Funds will be utilized to "buy down" the out-of-pocket expenses for training to \$85 per week.

The Naval Sea Cadet Corps instills in every Cadet a sense of patriotism, courage and the foundation of personal honor. A significant percent of Cadets join the Armed Services often receiving accelerated advancement, or

obtain commissions. The program has significance in assisting to promote the Navy and Coast Guard, particularly in those areas of the U.S. where these Services have little presence, such as Ganado, Arizona, where there is a thriving Naval Sea Cadet Corps program. Accessions related to this program are a significant asset to the Services: Over 2,000 ex-Sea Cadets enlist annually and an average of over 10 percent of U.S. Naval Academy Midshipmen are ex-Cadets.

WILD PRATT RIVER ACT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, at an early age, my dad and mom taught me to walk on the rocks, not the alpine meadows they helped restore in Mount Rainier National Park. It is in that tradition that I have worked in Congress and the Natural Resources Committee to preserve the natural beauty of the Northwest for my children, grandchildren and generations to come.

After 6 years of hard work and community input, wilderness supporters last Friday celebrated the newly designated Wild Sky Wilderness Area near my district in Washington state. It contains over 106,000 acres of national forest in east Snohomish County. Senator MURRAY and Congressman LARSEN exercised great leadership to build such a wide consensus for this effort and have set the gold standard for how to write wilderness legislation in this country.

In this same spirit of preserving our State's pristine old growth and mature forests, rivers, and mountain peaks, today I added my name as a cosponsor to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Additions and Wild Pratt River Act of 2007 (H.R. 4113). I did so because it is my hope that at some point we are successful in crafting a final bill that is as full and complete as this wilderness deserves. In its present form, the bill would add 22,000 acres of wilderness area to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area that first was established in 1976.

As we learned with Wild Sky, getting a wilderness bill to the president's desk and signed into law takes a significant amount of effort from stakeholders, consensus from community members and widespread support from lawmakers. Therefore, we must get wilderness area designation right the first time, doing as much as possible to avoid piecemeal efforts to slowly add to wilderness time and again. I do have some concerns that this bill may not yet have reached the maturity and completeness necessary to bring the wilderness area to fruition, in two ways.

First, the boundaries of the wilderness need full consideration. For example, we need to look at whether the absence of the inclusion of the north portion of the Pratt River Valley reduces the ecosystem benefits that this wilderness could accomplish. Areas southeast of the present boundaries deserve similar consideration for comparable reasons.

Second, the success of the Wild Sky Wilderness Act of 2007 demonstrated the importance of being as open and inclusive early in the process in developing the boundaries of the area, as well defining all other aspects of